After a brief fight with cancer, Theresa died peacefully surrounded by her loving family.

Predeceased by parents her Qaqsauq and Attuaraaqjuq, first husband Simeoni Kanayok, daughter Levinia Qaqsauqiaqjuq and brothers Eqoginnaq and Simeoni Nipisa.

Survived by loving husband Norman, children: Veronica (Brian); Alexander (Ramona); Winnie; Paul (Elizabeth); Sam; Rosie (John); and Donald; 17 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren, sisters Marie (Thomas), Noella, Valerie (Bryan), brothers John (Martha) and Guy, aunts Emily Alerk and Lucy Kownuk and numerous relatives across Kivalliq.

A respected elder and leader, Theresa was involved in several areas of the community for many years as a Hamlet council member, a director with the local housing association and with the Co-op, as well as being a lay leader for the Roman Catholic Church. She took upon herself to be a welcoming committee for new residents. She loved ice-fishing and looked forward to the May 24 ice-fishing derby and to the tea-boiling and bannock-making contests in July. In essence, despite her hardships and physical ailments, she loved life and lived it.

The family is very, very grateful to the residents and community of Whale Cove for their generous support and prayers. In our books, you are Number 1 and we cannot thank you enough! We also would like to thank the nurses Debbie, Rose and Sue, homecare staff, Pat Enuapik and Marie Okalik - you have been angels in our midst.

A funeral service was held at the Roman Catholic Church in Whale Cove April 19. On April 21 according to her wishes, she was laid to rest next to her brother at Meliadine River, Rankin Inlet, NU where she grew up. The family thanks Sam Auralak and Reverend Paul Williams for officiating the funeral service and burial respectively, as well as to David and Susie for their wonderful music.

Mom, we will miss your guidance, your presence and your love. You will be a tough act to follow - your shoes are too big to fill.